[*English*]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY : The facts are told. Now, the point is that even the Minister is kidnapped there. The MLAs are kidnapped. The house of the Deputy Speaker was attacked. An attempt was made to topple the Government in Meghalaya. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee has demanded that the majority has to be proved on the Floor of the Assembly. This is the right thing to do. Now the Home Minsiter is here. The Leader of the House is also here. We want to know whether they have any knowledge of the developments that are taking place in Meghalaya. This will be an affront to the democratic process in that State if in this obnoxious manner the Government there is toppled and a defection Government of your Party is installed. I demand that you make a statement here and set the things right in Meghalaya.

[*Translation*]

*SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat) : Mr. Speaker, I am raising an important matter. Onam is a national festival of the Keralites which is being celebrated this month. It is celebrated by people irrespective of caste, creed and religion. The people of Kerala are facing serious problems due to the shortage of boiled rice from whichever source available. But even ever when the Govt. manages to get some rice from some source with great difficulty, there is a shortage of wagons. The wagons available are leaking. Now this is posing aothenr problem. *I, therefore, request the Govt. to ensure* the supply of good wagons for transporting rice to Kerala.

Another problem is of non-availability of Palmolein. Immediate steps should be taken to supply Palmolein to Kerala.

Sir, as I said Onam is the national festival and the Malayalees living outside Kerala have a desire to go home and celebrate Onam. But today they are not able to go to Kerala due to inadequate train facilities. Therefore, special train should be run so that Keralites from Delhi, Bombay and other cities could reach Kerala to participate in the celebrations.

*Translation of the point originally raised in Malayalam.

Sir, there is a popular saying in Kerala that Onam should be celebrated even by selling one's own land. Such is the importance of this festival and therefore, the Govt. should take immediate steps to supply good wagons, and Palmolein as well as run special trains. The Legend says that during the region of Malabali, there was prefect equality. In the democratic age Onam provides an opportunity for people of different communities and creed to come together. So, the Govt. should facilitate it.

12.10 Hrs.

(SHRI SHARAD DIGHE IN THE CHAIR)

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, Krishna Mill in Beawar in my constituency Ajmer has been lying closed for the last few months as a result of which thousands of labourers have been rendered jobelss. Thousands of families of these labourers are on the verge of starvation and owing to it, the economic situation in Beawar and nearby villages has worsened. The most alarming fact is that machines worth crores of rupees installed in this mill are getting rusted. The labourers have not been paid their Provident Fund. Despite the struggle, the satyagrahas and persistent demand of the labourers, the mill has not been reopened. Sir, I. therefore, request the Government through you, to hand over the Krishna Mill in Beawar either to some private parties or to the National Textile Corporation so that it could be recommissioned early and labourers could be saved from starvation.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilley) : Mr. Speaker. Sir, on 31st the hon. Minister of Agriculture had made an announcement in this House that the pre-budget stocks of fertilisers available with the dealers would be sold at the old rates. But it is a matter of regret that despite this announcement this is not being done. At present the retail traders have two lakh tonnes of pre-budget stock of fertilizers and the whole sale traders have twenty lakh tonnes of Pre-budget stock of fertilizers with them. Government here manipulated and issued orders to sell two lakh tonnes of fertilisers available with the retailers at the